



LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Business Meeting

Administration Building

January 20, 2026 7:00 PM

Minutes

The Lamar County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on January 20, 2026 at 7:00 pm with the following members present: Chairman Ryran Traylor, Vice Chair Jason Lovett, Commissioner Jarrod Fletcher, Commissioner Ashley Gilles, and Commissioner Truman Boyle. The following staff members were also present: County Administrator Sean Townsend and County Clerk Anita Buice.

Pledge and Invocation

Chairman Traylor opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and an invocation by Mr. Allen Smith with First Baptist Church of Barnesville.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Lovett motioned to approve the agenda with an amendment to include county appointments to the Solid Waste Authority. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gilles and approved 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of December 9th, December 11th, and December 16th, 2025. Commissioner Boyle motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gilles and approved 4-0.

Board Appointments

Commissioner Gilles motioned to appoint Ken Huff and Commissioner Lovett to the Three Rivers Regional Commission Council. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Boyle and approved 3-0-1 with Commissioner Lovett abstained.

Commissioner Lovett motioned to reaffirm and ratify the appointments of Commissioner Gilles and Commissioner Boyle made on January 6, 2026 to the Solid Waste Authority. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fletcher and approved 4-0.

Request for Full Time Employee: Office of Lamar County Tax Commissioner

Mr. Townsend presented a budget amendment request (attached) from Lesley Kilchriss, Tax Commissioner to accommodate a change of a part-time position to a full time position. Mr. Townsend explained a full time employee would be retiring in June of this year and the office needed more training time. Commissioner Lovett motioned to approve the request. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Boyle and approved 4-0.

Budget Amendment to finalize 2025 Budget

Mr. Townsend presented Resolution 2026-01(attached) which would finalize the 2025 budget. He explained the unbudgeted items from 2025 such as donations and grant awards are now accounted for per Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) rules. Commissioner Gilles motioned to approve Resolution 2026-01. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Fletcher and approved 4-0.

Automatic Aid Agreement between Lamar County and City of Barnesville

Chief Douglas Matthews presented an Intergovernmental Agreement for Automatic Response and Mutual Aid (attached) between Lamar County and the City of Barnesville. He explained the document details how the county and city overlap to provide fire services. Commissioner Boyle motioned to approve the agreement. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Gilles and approved 4-0.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Townsend addressed the board with the Administrator's Report. He presented the revenue reports from December 2025 and added that the income received matched the forecasted amounts. He announced that \$4 million has been put into interest bearing certificates of deposits. He then provided an update for several county projects: a Request for Proposals is being advertised for the Atlanta Street bridge; the erosion plans for the Rock Springs, Chappell Mill, and High Falls widening and paving project have been sent for review; Howard Road has been paved and striped and paving has started on Zebulon Road. He also announced that a work order has been submitted for Trojan's Way, replacement windows for the courthouse have been ordered, and dehumidifiers have been installed in the Old Jail Museum. Sales tax revenues were reviewed with Mr. Townsend noting that Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) and Special Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) were 4% higher from 2024 and Transportation Special Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST) was up 6% because of additional Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG) funds received from the state.

Public Comments

Chairman Traylor then opened the floor to public comments.

Ms. Regina Stephens of Lamar County addressed the board with concerns of the low visibility of house numbers. She stated that many addresses can't be seen from the road and is worried this will delay emergency services. She asked the board to find solutions.

Mr. Donald Hartman of Lamar County spoke to the board concerning the orders received from Judge Wilson concerning the Solid Waste Authority and felt these were good findings for the county. He also asked to recognize the first responders who would be on the front line with the potential weather event this weekend and that he appreciates their service. He added that it may be a good idea to look at adding a traffic light in front of the high school.

Ms. Dianne Perry of Lamar County addressed the board with a request to use the board room for the monthly republican party meetings. She also suggested the commissioners begin again with informal quarterly meetings.

Commissioner’s Round Table

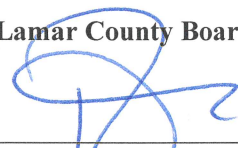
As there were no more public comments, Chairman Traylor opened the floor to commissioners round table.

Commissioner Gilles announced there would be a Solid Waste Authority meeting on Friday, January 23, 2026 at 6 pm at the Lamar County Courthouse.

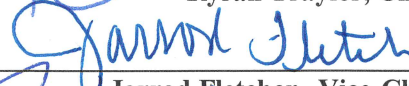
Chairman Traylor thanked City of Barnesville Mayor Kelly Hughs and Chief Chute for joining the meeting tonight. He also suggested the county may be able to pursue grant funds to help people purchase better reflective address signs. He addressed the complaints phoned in concerning Camp Road. He explained the road is currently a detour for truck traffic due to bridge repair in Spalding County. The plan is to repair the road once the bridge repair is complete and the detour is no longer in force. He ended by reminding everyone of the winter weather alert for this weekend and that county personnel along with the commissioners are in the early planning stages to handle the emergency. He advised everyone to please stay off the roads in bad weather.

As there was no further business, Commissioner Gilles motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Lovett and approved 4-0.

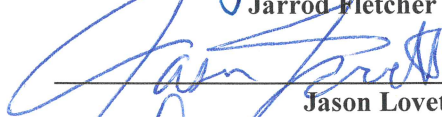
Lamar County Board of Commissioners



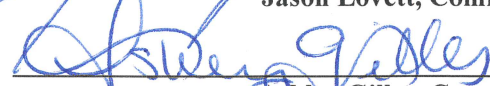
Ryran Traylor, Chairman




Jarrod Fletcher , Vice-Chairman



Jason Lovett, Commissioner

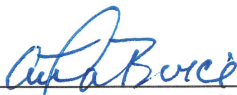


Ashley Gilles, Commissioner



Truman Boyle, Commissioner

Attest:



Anita Buice, County Clerk

Lamar County Board of Commissioners
 FY 2026 Budget Amendment #1

Revenue

	Debit	Credit
Taxes		
Licenses & Permits		
Intergovernmental		
General Government		
Fines & Forfeitures		
Contrib/Donation Private		
Miscellaneous Revenue		

Total Revenue Budget Amendment	\$	-
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Expenditures

Administration		
100-51500-57.9100 Contingencies	\$	(20,730)
Tax Commissioner		
100-51545-51.1101 Salary-Regular Employees	\$	19,256
100-51545-51.2200 FICA	\$	1,194
100-51545-51.2300 Medicare	\$	279

Total Expenditures Budget Amendment	\$	(0) \$	-
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RESOLUTION 2026-01

A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR LAMAR COUNTY; TO RATIFY ANY AND ALL ACTIONS TAKEN CONSISTENT WITH THIS RESOLUTION; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL INCONSISTENT PROVISIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the operating budget of Lamar County (“County”) for the fiscal year in the amount of \$18,162,866 was duly adopted by the Lamar County Board of Commissioners (“Board”)

WHEREAS, it now appears that the budget for the 2025 fiscal year needs to be amended as to adapt to the County’s changing governmental needs during the budget period and to account for the increase in incoming revenue to the County, all of which have arisen since the adoption of the budget and;

WHEREAS, the Board, in the exercise of its sound judgment and discretion, and after giving thorough thought to all the implications involved and considering all other reasonable options, has determined it to be in the best interest of the County that this Resolution be adopted.

NOW THEREFORE, UPON MOTION BEING DULY MADE AND SECONDED, THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED:

- 1. BE IT RESOLVED** that the proposed amendment to the budget of the County for the 2025 fiscal year attached to this Resolution as Exhibit “A” and as presented at the meeting of the Board to increase the expenditures \$277,684 to \$18,440,550 and increase the revenues \$277,684 to \$18,440,550 and is hereby adopted, in accordance with Georgia Law OCGA § 36-81-3.
- 2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that said an amendment to the budget shall be included as part of the minutes of the meeting of the Board and thereby become part of the record of that meeting.
- 3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Board.

DULY ADOPTED this 20th day of January 2026,

LAMAR COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Ryan Traylor, Chairman



Jason Lovett, Vice-Chairman



Jarrod Fletcher, Commissioner

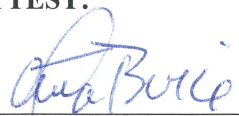


Ashley Gilles, Commissioner



Truman Boyles, Commissioner

ATTEST:



Anita Buice, County Clerk

Lamar County Board of Commissioners
Budget Amendment # 2

Revenue

	Debit	Credit
Taxes		
Licenses & Permits		
Intergovernmental		
100-33.4192 Congregate Home Delivery		\$ 16,513
General Government		
Fines & Forfeitures		
Contrib/Donation Private		
100-37-1005 Funds- Private Sources		\$ 3,331
100-37-1010 Recreation Donation income		\$ 112,450
100-37.1015 Animal Shelter Donation		\$ 125,602
Miscellaneous Revenue		
100-38.1000 Reimbursement from Damaged Prop		\$ 13,785
100-38.200 Reimbursement from Vehicles		\$ 6,003
<div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 20px;">Total Revenue Budget Amendment</div> <div style="text-align: right;">\$ 277,684</div>		

Expenditures

Administration		
100-51500-52.1201 Conflit Attorney	\$ 189,329.00	
100-51500-52.1205 Special Master-Court Order	\$ 28,401.00	
100-51500-52.1202 Audit Services	\$ 33,000.00	
100-51500-57.9100 Contingencies	\$ (250,730)	
Building & Grounds		
100-51567-52.2204 M&R Building	\$ 13,785	
Sheriff		
100-53310-52.2202 Vehicle M&R	\$ 6,003	
Animal Shelter		
100-53914-54.1000 Animal Shelter Capital Construction	\$ 125,602	
Senior Center		
100-55520-53.1302 Congregate Meals	\$ 16,513	
100-55520-53.1116 Senior Citizen Activites	\$ 3,331	
Recreation		
100-56149-53.1100 Recreation Donation Exp	\$ 112,450	
<div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 20px;">Total Expenditures Budget Amendment</div> <div style="text-align: right;">\$ 277,684 \$ -</div>		

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF LAMAR

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

FOR

AUTOMATIC RESPONSE AND MUTUAL AID

EMERGENCY INCIDENTS

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this day of , by and between LAMAR COUNTY, GEORGIA, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia (hereinafter "County") and CITY OF BARNESVILLE, a municipal corporation (hereinafter "City");

WITNESSETH THAT:

WHEREAS the parties are local governments authorized by law to engage in the delivery of services relating to fire suppression, fire prevention and education, pursuant to Art. IX, Sec. II, Par III (a)(I) of the 1983 Constitution of Georgia, each having its own Fire Department which is comparably equipped with trained staffs;

WHEREAS it is mutually advantageous and serves the mutual benefit of each party that they, by appropriate agreement, undertake and agree upon the provision of automatic response and mutual aid for responding to emergency incidents;

WHEREAS, the parties are authorized, pursuant to Art. IX, Sec. III, Par. I of the 1983 Constitution of Georgia, to contract with one another for a term not to exceed fifty (50) years for the provision and delivery of services which each is empowered to perform; and

WHEREAS, this agreement satisfies the requirements of Art. IX, Sec. II, Par. II (b) of the 1983 Constitution of Georgia and is consistent with the provisions of the Service Delivery Strategy for Lamar County Georgia.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual premises hereinafter made and other valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is acknowledged, the parties agree to implement this automatic response and mutual aid agreement (hereinafter the "Agreement") for increased fire protection of citizens and property in their respective jurisdictions.

1.

Definitions. For the purposes of this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meaning assigned thereto:

"Emergency Incident"- A fire involving a structure or building.

“Automatic response”- The practice whereby the fire department of one jurisdiction automatically responds to emergency incidents in certain defined areas of the other jurisdiction as shown on Exhibit “A” attached hereto. Automatic response shall include all usual and customary activities but shall not include fire investigation or other matters not directly related to or involved in responding to emergency incidents.

“Automatic Response Area”- Any territory located within the corporate limits of the City of Barnesville or the unincorporated territory of Lamar County, adjoining the City of Barnesville as the same may now or hereafter exist and which is designated on the map, attached hereto as Exhibit “A”, as assigned as automatic response areas for the parties.

“Host Jurisdiction”- The jurisdiction where automatic response to the emergency is made or where mutual aid is requested.

“Mutual Aid”- The provision by the responding jurisdiction of fire units upon request by the host jurisdiction, as herein defined by this agreement.

“Responding Jurisdiction”- The jurisdiction whose fire department responds, either automatically to calls within their assigned automatic response area or to a request for mutual aid from the host jurisdiction.

2.

Automatic Response Area: Automatic response shall be made by the City Fire Department to emergency incidents in the County located in the Automatic Response Area. Automatic response shall be made by the County Fire Department to emergency incidents in the City located in the Automatic Response Area. Areas designated as “automatic response areas” have been selected based on the responding jurisdiction’s ability to arrive at calls within these areas in a minimal period of time with their normal compliment of equipment and manpower; based on the location of existing fire stations. The parties, by future amendment to this Agreement, may agree upon and designate additional automatic response areas from time to time in responding to a call within an automatic response area, the following conditions shall be observed:

- a. Subject to availability of equipment and personnel, the responding jurisdiction shall respond in the same manner and at the same level of response as if the emergency were located in its own jurisdiction using generally accepted fire department techniques.
- b. The senior officer of the responding jurisdiction will begin operations and remain in command until relieved at the scene by the senior officer of the host jurisdiction. Upon arrival of units of the host jurisdiction at the scene, the senior officer shall immediately coordinate and undertake assumption of command, at which time the responding jurisdiction is released unless mutual aid is requested.
- c. Dispatch for automatic response will follow current procedures of both parties and Lamar County E-911 for dispatch of fire units of both the City and County simultaneously upon receipt of a call for assistance from within any automatic response area.

3.

Mutual Aid. In the event of any fire located within the jurisdiction of either party, that is not within a designated automatic response area, the senior officer in the host jurisdiction may request aid in fire suppression from the responding jurisdiction, on the following terms:

- a. The response for mutual aid shall be subject to the availability of equipment and personnel by the responding jurisdiction, upon consideration for maintaining sufficient coverage within its own jurisdiction.
- b. In the sole discretion of the Fire Chief or designated officer in command of the responding jurisdiction, a response to mutual aid may be recalled at any time.
- c. The senior officer of the host jurisdiction shall be in command at the emergency scene, unless command is otherwise delivered and assumed. Directives should be delivered through the senior officer of the host jurisdiction to the senior officer of the responding jurisdiction.

4.

Reserved.

5.

Miscellaneous Provisions. The parties, through their Fire Chiefs and respective governing bodies, shall agree upon and establish standard operating procedures, including where feasible, joint quarterly training of firefighters. If available, both parties will use a common tactical radio frequency and communications equipment be available for use by all responding units in order to allow efficient communications and control in fire emergencies.

6.

Compensation. It is the intention and understanding of the parties that each shall be solely responsible to its officers, employees, and agents for all compensation and employee benefits due under the respective policies of each party. Neither party to this agreement shall be required to pay any compensation or benefits to the officers, employees, or agents of the other party as a result of this Agreement or the relationship established hereunder for services rendered in the host authority. Throughout the term of this Agreement, both parties agree to maintain in force all statutory coverages for Workers Compensation in the event of a covered injury or death arising from employment.

7.

Liability and Insurance. The parties agree that during the term of this Agreement and during any applicable statute of limitations on claims made or arising during the term thereof, each shall maintain in force a policy of comprehensive liability insurance in the amount not less than

\$1,000,000.00, no aggregate, providing coverage for any and all legal liabilities incurred that may result in judgement against the party, its officers, employees, and agents arising out of the course and scope of their employment pursuant to this Agreement. In lieu of conventional insurance, either party may satisfy this obligation by participation in an interlocal risk management agency, operated in accordance with O.C.G.A. 36-85-1 § *et seq.* In the event of any suit, claim, or demand against a party, the parties agree to look solely to their respective insurance coverage for defense and payment of any resulting legal liabilities, waive any rights to assert subrogation claims by their insurer, and covenant not to assert any claim against the other party as a consequence of such action.

8.

Reserved.

9.

Term. This Agreement shall commence effective _____, 2026 and shall run for an initial term of five (5) years, ending December 31, 2029. Upon mutual agreement of both parties, entered not less than thirty (30) days prior to the termination date, the parties may renew this Agreement, on the same terms and conditions, for successive five-year periods; provided, however, the total term of this Agreement and any renewal terms shall not exceed fifty (50) years from its original date of commencement. In addition to the grounds otherwise stated in this Agreement for early termination, either party, upon vote of its governing body, may elect to withdraw from this Agreement, with or without cause, upon the giving of 30 days written notice to the governing body of the other party. In the event of early termination, the parties agree to coordinate an orderly transition so as not to jeopardize any person or property from fire hazards.

10.

Notices. For the purpose of this Agreement, any notices required to be sent to the other party shall be in writing and personally delivered, with receipt acknowledged, or mailed by certified mail or statutory overnight delivery, return receipt requested, to the respective City Manager or County Administrator, with copy to the respective Fire Chief. When notice is delivered in this manner, such notice shall be effective for all purposes hereunder.

11.

Amendment and Modification. This Agreement may be amended or modified only by a writing executed by all parties. No modification or amendment of any term, condition, or provision of this Agreement shall be effective unless done in this manner.

12.

Entire Agreement. This writing, including Exhibit "A" attached hereto, constitutes the entire Agreement of the parties as to the subject matter expressed herein and supersedes any prior negotiations, agreements, or understandings.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties acting by and through their duly authorized officers have caused their respective names and seals to be affixed hereto the day and year above written.

CITY OF BARNESVILLE

LAMAR COUNTY

Mayor

Chairperson

Attest:

Attest:

Approved as to Form:

Approved as to Form:

City Attorney

County Attorney

Automatic Aide County Buffers

